Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) :

A method of transmitting data, comprising the steps of:

- transmitting successively on a channel, from a first unit, data blocks destined for a second unit;

- for at least some of the transmitted data blocks, returning an acknowledgement signal from the second unit to the first unit, indicating whether said transmitted data block has been correctly received;

- transmitting on said channel, from the first unit, a redundancy block relating to at least some of the data blocks previously transmitted for which a received acknowledgement signal indicates incorrect reception, whereby each transmitted block is accompanied by an identification signal indicating whether said block is a redundancy block;

- associating, in the first unit, each received acknowledgement signal with a block transmitted in a determined temporal relation with the reception of said acknowledgement signal; and

- in at least some of the cases of reception of an identification signal inconsistent with an acknowledgement signal previously returned, returning from the second unit to the first unit a restart command signal for restarting transmission of ~~the~~ blocks.

Claim 2 (original) :

A method according to Claim 1, wherein the blocks are transmitted in turn over K subchannels, the first unit comprising K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined

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in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel, said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception.

Claim 3 (currently amended) :

A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

~~restarting, in the first unit, the transmission of the successive blocks from a data block following a first data block in response to reception of the restart command signal subsequent to a reception by the second unit of an identification signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with regard to said first data block.~~

<u>-   in response to the reception of the restart command signal subsequent to the reception by the second unit of an identification signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with regard to a first data block, restarting, in the first unit, the transmission of successive blocks from a data block following said first data block.</u>

Claim 4 (original) :

A method according to Claim 3, wherein the blocks are transmitted in turn over K subchannels, the first unit comprising K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel, said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception,

wherein each of the K buffer memories is dimensioned to contain a single data block,

and wherein the data block from which the first unit restarts the transmission in response to the reception of a restart command signal subsequent to the reception by the second unit of an identification signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with regard to a first data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is the last data block

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transmitted over said channel, obtained from the buffer memory corresponding to said subchannel.

Claim 5 (currently amended) :

A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of :

~~restarting, in the first unit, the transmission of the successive blocks from said first data block, in response to the reception of a restart command signal subsequent to the reception by the second unit of an identification signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with regard to a first data block.~~

-        in response to the reception of a restart command signal subsequent to the reception by the second unit of an identification signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with regard to a first data block, restarting, in the first unit, the transmission of successive blocks from said first data block.

Claim 6 (original) :

A method according to Claim 5, wherein the blocks are transmitted in turn over K subchannels, the first unit comprising K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel, said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception,

and wherein each of the K buffer memories is dimensioned to contain two data blocks transmitted successively over a subchannel.

Claim 7 (original) :

A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of :

configuring a link between the first and second units, whereby at least one restart

configuration parameter for the transmission of the blocks is supplied to a command module

for the transmission of the blocks of the first unit; and

- restarting, in the first unit, the transmission of the successive blocks from a data
block selected as a function of said restart configuration parameter, in response to the reception
of a restart command signal subsequent to the reception by the second unit of an identification
signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with regard to a first data block.

Claim 8 (original) :

A method according to Claim 7, wherein the blocks are transmitted in turn over K
subchannels, the first unit comprising K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks
respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined
in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of
the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel,
said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least
some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception,

wherein said data block from which the first unit restarts the transmission in
response to the reception of a restart command signal subsequent to the reception by the second
unit of an identification signal inconsistent with the acknowledgement signal returned with
regard to a first data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is obtained from the buffer
memory corresponding to said subchannel as being, as a function of the restart configuration
parameter, either said first data block or the last data block transmitted over said subchannel.

Claim 9 (currently amended) :

A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of :

- returning to the first unit, from the second unit, a restart command signal for
restarting the transmission of the blocks, in each case of reception of an identification signal
inconsistent with an acknowledgement signal previously returned.

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Claim 10 (original) :

A method according to Claim 1, wherein the acknowledgement signal and restart command signal are defined by states of an uplink indication addressed by the second unit to the first unit on a control channel.

Claim 11 (original) :

A method according to Claim 10, wherein said uplink indication comprises three states, namely positive acknowledgement, negative acknowledgement and restart command.

Claim 12 (original) :

A method according to Claim 10, wherein said uplink indication comprises four states, namely positive acknowledgement with no restart command, negative acknowledgement with no restart command, positive acknowledgement with restart command and negative acknowledgement with restart command.

Claim 13 (original) :

A method according to Claim 12, further comprising the step of :

-     restarting, in the first unit, the transmission of the successive blocks from a data block dependent on the type of acknowledgement, in response to the reception of an uplink indication in a state with restart command.

Claim 14 (original) :

A method according to Claim 10, further comprising the step of:

-     configuring a link between the first and second units, in the course of which at least one format parameter for the restart command signals is supplied to the first and second units,

and wherein said uplink indication has a number of states dependent on said format parameter.

Claim 15 (currently amended) :

A device for transmitting data, comprising:

- means for transmitting successive data blocks destined for a remote unit; and

- means for receiving an acknowledgement signal returned by the remote unit and indicating whether a transmitted data block has been correctly received,

wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to transmit a redundancy block relating to at least some of the blocks previously transmitted for which the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception,

wherein each acknowledgement signal received is associated with a block transmitted in a determined temporal relation with the reception of said acknowledgement signal,

the device further comprising means for transmitting an identification signal accompanying each block transmitted and indicating whether said block is a redundancy block,

wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to restart the transmission of the blocks in response to the reception of a restart command signal originating from the remote unit and indicating an inconsistency between an identification signal received and an acknowledgement signal previously returned by the remote unit.

Claim 16 (original) :

A device for transmitting data according to Claim 15, wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to transmit the blocks in turn over K subchannels, and comprise K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel, said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception.

Claim 17 (currently amended) :

A device for transmitting data according to Claim 15, wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to restart the transmission of ~~the~~ blocks from a data block following a first data block in response to the reception of a restart command signal indicating an inconsistency between an identification signal received and an acknowledgement signal previously returned by the remote unit with regard to said first data block.

Claim 18 (original) :

A device for transmitting data according to Claim 17, wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to transmit the blocks in turn over K subchannels, and comprise K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel, said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception,

and wherein each of the K buffer memories is dimensioned to contain a single data block,

and wherein the data block from which the means for transmitting blocks restart the transmission in response to the reception of said restart command signal is the last data block transmitted over the same subchannel as said first block, obtained from the buffer memory corresponding to said subchannel.

Claim 19 (currently amended) :

A device for transmitting data according to Claim 15, wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to restart the transmission of ~~the~~ blocks from a first data block in response to the reception of a restart command signal indicating an inconsistency between an identification signal received and an acknowledgement signal previously returned by the remote unit with regard to said first data block.

Claim 20 (original) :

A device for transmitting data according to Claim 19, wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to transmit the blocks in turn over K subchannels, and comprise K buffer memories for temporarily storing the data blocks respectively transmitted over the K subchannels, K being a number at least equal to 1 determined in such a way that the acknowledgement signal relating to a data block transmitted over one of the K subchannels is received before the transmission of the next block over said subchannel, said next block being a redundancy block with regard to said data block transmitted in at least some of the cases where the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception,

and wherein each one of the K buffer memories is dimensioned to contain two data blocks transmitted successively over a subchannel.

Claim 21 (currently amended) :

A device for transmitting data according to Claim 15, wherein the restart command signal indicating an inconsistency between a received identification signal and an acknowledgement signal previously returned by the remote unit with regard to a data block further indicates whether the block accompanied by said identification signal has been correctly received, and wherein the means for transmitting blocks are arranged to restart the transmission of the blocks from a first data block in response to the reception of said restart command signal, said first data block being selected in a manner dependent on the fact that the restart command signal indicates or not otherwise that the block accompanied by said identification signal has been correctly received.

Claim 22 (currently amended) :

A device for receiving data in the form of data blocks successively transmitted by a remote unit on a channel, comprising means for receiving an identification signal accompanying each block transmitted and indicating whether said block transmitted is a redundancy block, and means for transmitting an acknowledgement signal returned to the remote unit and indicating whether a transmitted data block has been correctly received, a redundancy block being

transmitted by the remote unit with regard to each block previously transmitted for which the acknowledgement signal received indicates incorrect reception, the device further comprising means for transmitting a restart command signal for the transmission of the blocks which is returned to the remote unit in at least some of the cases of reception of an identification signal inconsistent with an acknowledgement signal previously returned to the remote unit.

Claim 23 (original) :

A device for receiving data according to Claim 22, wherein the means for transmitting the restart command signal are arranged to return to the remote unit a restart command signal for the transmission of the blocks in each case of reception of an identification signal inconsistent with an acknowledgement signal previously returned.

Claim 24 (original) :

A device for receiving data according to Claim 22, wherein the acknowledgement signal and restart command signal are defined by states of an uplink indication returned to the remote unit via a control channel.

Claim 25 (original) :

A device for receiving data according to Claim 24, wherein said uplink indication comprises three states, namely positive acknowledgement, negative acknowledgement and restart command.

Claim 26 (original) :

A device for receiving data according to Claim 24, wherein said uplink indication comprises four states, namely positive acknowledgement with no restart command, negative acknowledgement with no restart command, positive acknowledgement with restart command and negative acknowledgement with restart command.

Claim 27 (original) :

A device for receiving data according to Claim 22, further comprising means for decoding each block received accompanied by an identification signal inconsistent with an acknowledgement signal previously returned, the means for transmitting the restart command signal being arranged to return to the remote unit a restart command signal for the transmission of the blocks further indicating whether said block has been correctly received on completion of the decoding.

Claim 28 (original) :

A device for receiving data according to Claim 22, further comprising means for decoding each block received accompanied by an identification signal inconsistent with an acknowledgement signal previously returned, the transmission means being arranged to return to the remote unit an acknowledgement signal indicating that the data block transmitted has been correctly received without returning any restart command signal when said block has been correctly received on completion of the decoding.